

March 6, 1996

LB 1363
LR 206

year under LR 206. And when we, when the Urban Affairs Committee and part of this study went to look at city budgets, we could not distinguish what was in the records between bond issues and so forth by the way that they were reporting. So what we really need is a reliable listing because what with the Revenue Committee is looking at, I think, is to fund cities differently. Right now we fund cities simply based upon a head count. So we need some better reliable data to deal with the funding for cities. And so we also need better accountability, how much is going for bond, how much is going for general operations. And so that's basically what the bill does. It...in Section 1 the bill amends the information which is reported annually with the municipal clerk and ultimately with the State Auditor. It would require the amount budgeted for payments of principal and interest on bonds which is raised from property tax to be set out in a separate item. Other bill would require that the property tax statement, which we get each year, sent to the person for paying property tax, would be a levy for the tax for the principal and interest on their bonds and another part which deals with the...it shows what went to the other part of the...the general operation. So it simply gives us a better county...accountability, a better operation of doing a better job because I think the...we're looking very seriously at the way that we fund, or provide the state aid, the seventeen plus million dollars to the cities. So with that I'd...if there's no questions, I'd ask for the advancement of this bill.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Discussion on the motion to advance. Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Senator Hartnett, could you respond to a question?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: When we tried to get another line on our tax statement a couple of years ago, we had some difficulty with the clerk and the treasurer at that point in time because there wasn't room on our statement for, for an additional line. I mean, has anything that menial been thought about relative to...

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah, it has been, Senator Maurstad. I think we're working with...to try to do that. But I think that's...I think it's very important we do that.